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SUPPLEMENTARY
PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
under Rule 46, paragraph 1 of the European Patent
Convention

Application Number

EP 03 71 5923

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 6 168 077 B1 (GRAY ROBERT J ET AL) 2 January 2001 (2001-01-02) * column 1, line 43 - line 46 * * column 4, line 28 - line 59 *	1-3	G07F7/10 G07F19/00 G07G1/00
A	WO 92/21110 A (TELEVERKET) 26 November 1992 (1992-11-26) * page 5, line 38 - page 6, line 13 *	1-3	
X	US 5 237 487 A (DITTMER ET AL) 17 August 1993 (1993-08-17) * figures 2,3,6 * * column 3, line 3 - line 51 * * column 4, line 8 - line 19 *	4-8	
X	EP 0 565 253 A (NCR INTERNATIONAL INC; NCR INTERNATIONAL, INC) 13 October 1993 (1993-10-13) * column 1, line 1 - line 7 * * column 3, line 47 - line 53 * * column 4, line 55 - column 5, line 8 * * figures 1,9 *	4-8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G07F G07G
<p>LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION</p> <p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:</p> <p>see sheet B</p> <p>The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		21 February 2005	Diepstraten, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C23)



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-8

Transaction terminal

1.1. claims: 1-3

System for informing a user of a transaction terminal when encryption is being used

1.2. claims: 4-8

Constructional details of transaction terminal

2. claims: 9-14

Capturing signature data on a transaction terminal

3. claims: 15-19

Fingerprint reader on a transaction terminal

4. claims: 20-26

System for using an imaging module in a transaction terminal

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

Multiple (groups of) inventions have been found in this application:

1. Claims 1 - 3:

System for informing a user of a transaction terminal when encryption is being used.

2. Claims 4 - 8

Constructional details of a transaction terminal

3. Claims 9 - 14

Capturing signature data on a transaction terminal

4. Claims 15 - 19

Fingerprint reader on a transactional terminal

5. Claims 20 - 26

System for using an imaging module in a transaction terminal.



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

The common technical feature of all subjects is a transaction terminal consisting of a housing, a display and a card reader.

However, this technical feature is known from the state of the art (i.e. W00138098) and therefore cannot be considered as the single general inventive concept linking those subjects. (Rule 30(1) EPC)

- The special technical feature representing the contribution over the prior art (i.e. W00138098) of independent claim 1 (and its dependent claims 2 and 3) is that the terminal is equipped with an encryption system which notifies the user of the fact that encryption is currently being used.
- The special technical feature representing the contribution over the prior art (i.e. W00138098) of independent claim 4 (and its dependent claims 5 - 8) is an ergonomical housing for a transaction terminal, including self-cleaning card reader.
- The special technical feature representing the contribution over the prior art (i.e. W00138098) of independent claims 9 and 11 (and their dependent claims 10 and 12 - 14) is the inclusion of a touchscreen, a portion of which is used for capturing signature data, where a system monitors if the signature data is contained in the designated portion of the touchscreen.
- The special technical feature representing the contribution over the prior art (i.e. W00138098) of independent claim 15 (and its dependent claims 16 - 19) is that a fingerprint reader with a recess for a finger is included, where said recess forms an integral part with a cavity of the card reader.
- The special technical feature representing the contribution over the prior art (i.e. W00138098) of independent claims 20, 25 and 26 (and its dependent claims 21 - 24) is that an imaging module is included which attracts a user's attention when activated and which can be used for scanning goods or a user's identification document when required.

The special technical features mentioned above are different, and hence the four inventions are not linked by the same special technical feature.

Furthermore, said five inventions are also not linked by corresponding special technical features.

The first invention solves the problem of ensuring transaction security to a user. The second invention solves the problem of facilitating the use of the terminal and keeping the card reader clean. The third invention solves the problem of allowing easy and error free input of signature data. The fourth invention solves the problem of improving fingerprint scanning. The fifth invention solves the problem of allowing users of a transaction terminal to scan items.

The specific problems solved by the special technical features are different and as a result said features are not corresponding technical features.

The five inventions do not have special technical features in common nor



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

do they have corresponding special technical features. As a result they cannot be considered a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. Therefore the requirement regarding unity of invention as put forward by the EPC is not fulfilled (Art. 82 and Rule 30 EPC).

The definitions of the different groups of claimed inventions are solely intended to identify said inventions in a concise manner. They could, as such, comprise terms or generalisations which upon close analysis could be found to extend the defined subject-matter beyond the contents of the application as filed.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 03 71 5923

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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21-02-2005

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			EP 1131771 A1	12-09-2001
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			US 2001000405 A1	26-04-2001
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